GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4444
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2003
EMPLOYMENT GENERATION THROUGH KHADI
SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Khadi is gaining popularity abroad and its export has increased;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide jobs to more people through Khadi industries indicating the additional number of the people provided jobs in Khadi industries during the year 2001-02 as compared to the year 2000-01; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANJAYA BHAI GAUTAM)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): In order to meet financial needs of Khadi sector, interest subsidy is provided. Further, to boost the sales of Khadi products sales, rebate to the Khadi products is being extended and the number of days of rebate on Khadi products has been extended from 90 days to 108 days during 2002-03. The Government has also taken various steps to strengthen the Khadi sector by improving its quality, appearance etc. by involving agencies like NID, NIFT and other NGOs engaged in Research and Development like Ruda, Dastkar etc. Action for producing finer variety of Khadi fabrics crease resistant Khadi etc. has been initiated. Renovation of sales points and aggressive publicity has been taken up to promote Khadi programme and sustained employment. During the year 2001-02, under Khadi programme, employment opportunities were provided to 8.48 lakh persons as compared to 9.58 lakh persons during the year 2000-01. The main reasons for shortfall is the general recession in the market of textiles, change in taste of consumers, more pre-dominance of Readymade Garments, less availability of funds from the banks under Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate Scheme etc.